(b) Cyclosporin is manufactured in the country. It has been claimed by the domestic manufacturers that there is enough domestic capacity to meet the demand and that domestically produced drugs meet the international specifications and quality standards.

(c) There is no such proposal under consideration at present.

Telephone system in rural areas by private companies

*234. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had given the responsibility to the private companies to set up telephone system in the rural areas of the country;

(b) if so, when the final decision had been taken in this regard;

(c) whether a time bound target was fixed at the time of taking the decision;

(d) if so, the details of the said time bound targets which were given to each of the above companies; and

(e) whether Government have ascertained any information with regard to the achievement of targets and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) Government had awarded the licences to six private companies to set up telephone system for providing the basic telephone services in their respective licensed Telecom Circles which included the rural areas also viz. M/s Bharti Telenet Ltd. in Madhya Pradesh, M/s Tata Teleservices Ltd. in Andhra Pradesh, M/s Reliance Telecom Private Ltd. in Gujarat, M/s Hughes Tele.com (India) Ltd. in Maharashtra, M/s HFCL Infotel Ltd. in Punjab and M/s Shyam Telelink Ltd. in Rajasthan.

(b) The effective date of these licences was 30.9.1997 except for M/s Shyam Telelink Ltd. for which it was 4.3.1998.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. The details of their time bound committed targets for provision of Direct Exchange Lines (DELs) and Village Public Telephones (VPTs) alongwith information ascertained from them with regard to achievement of these targets is enclosed as statements I and II respectively.

Statement-I

Committed provision of direct exchange lines (DELs) by private licensees.

Name of the Operator	Service Area	Month of Commence-ment of service	No. of committed cumulative DELs at the end of:			No. of DELs provided as on 31.10.2000
			I year	II year	III year	
Bharti Telenet Ltd.	Madhya Pradesh	June 1998	50,000	1,00,000	1,50,000	1,05,602
Tata Teleservices	Andhra Pradesh	March 1999	50,000	1,50,000	3,00,000	44,116
Hughes Tele.com	Maharashtra	October 1998	10,000	2,62,000	6,07,900	33,009
Reliance Telecom	Gujarat	May 2000	48,000	1,44,000	2,88,000	100
Shyam Telelink	Rajasthan	June 2000	29,757	72,273	1,46,909	3,871
HFCL Infotel	Punjab	September 2000	1,25,000	3,25,000	2,25,000	1,111
		TOTAL	312757	1053273	2017809	187809

NOTE: (i) Effective date of the above licences was 30-9-1997 except for M/s Shyam Telelink for which it was 4-3-1998.

(ii) Year I, II and III for the above committed cumulative targets are to be counted from the effective date of licence.

Statement-II

Provision of village pulic telephones (VPTs) by private licensees

Sl. No.	Licensee and Licensed Circle	Effective Date of Licence	Committed targets *for VPTs in first three years (as per obligations under Licence Agreement)			Total No. of commit-ted VPTs in Ist 3 years	No. of VPTs actually provided till 24.11.2K
			I Year	II Year	III Year		
1.	M/s Tata Tele-services (Andhra Pradesh)	30.9.1997 30.9.1998)	9635 (by	(all villages were to be covered in first year i.e. by 30.9.1998)		9635	Nil
2	M/s Reliance Telecom (Gujarat)	30.9.1997	8635 (by 30.9.1997	(all villages were to be covered in first year i.e. by 30.9.1998)		8635	Nil

Sl.	Licensee and Licensed Circle	Effective Date of Licence	Committed targets *for VPTs in firstthree years (as per obligations under Licence Agreement)			Total No. of committed VPTs in Ist 3 years	No. of VPTs actually provided till 24.11.2K
			I Year	II Year	III Year		
3	M/s HFCL Infotel Ltd. (Punjab)	30.9.1997	5442 (all villages were to be covered in first year i.e. by 30.9.1998)			5442	Nil
4	M/s Hughes Telecom (India) (Maharashtra)	30.9.1997	4000 (by 30.9.1998)	21760 (by 30.9.1999)	No village was to be left uncovered by 30.9.99	25760	Nil
5	M/s Bharti Telenet (Madhya Pradesh)	30.9.1997	5500 (by 30.9.1998	5500 (by 30.9.99	5500 (by 30.9.2000	16500	315
6	M/s Shyam Telelink (Rajasthan)	04.3.1998 04.03.1999)	7439 (by	10629 (by 4.3.2000)	13766 (by 4.3.2001)	31834 [36727]**	55
	TOTAL		40651	37889	19266	97806	370

* Translated into absolute terms based on bid/tender documents keeping in view the committed targets for Direct Exchange Lines (DELs) and the figure for number of uncovered villages indicated in the tender.

* * The total number of uncovered villages in Rajasthan Service area is only 31834 as against the licensee's commitment of 36727.

Measures to overcome water crisis in States

†*235. SHRI RAJ MAHINDER SINGH:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that possibilities of further deepening of water crisis in several States of the country have been noticed;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the names of such States;

(c) whether Government have prepared any action plan to provide rapid solution to this crisis; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.